CHAMBER MUSIC AMERICA

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January 29, 1993

Dear CMA Member,

I write to let you know of a recent decision by the Chamber Music America board of directors. In the course of the next three years, CMA had planned to conduct at least nine seminars in Aspen, Colorado. However, due to the recently approved ballot initiative regarding Colorado's gay and lesbian citizens, the CMA Board decided not to hold the planned meetings in Colorado.

This action was not taken lightly nor was the decision an easy one. However, the CMA board did take it with determination. As the representative for thousands of professional musicians, concert presenters, festivals, college level training institutions, allied businesses, and individual music lovers, the CMA board felt that moving the meetings would be the most effective course. However, the board of directors championed the original legislative positions taken by the cities of Aspen, Denver, and Boulder, cities that have demonstrated a distinguished history of support for human rights.

In making this decision, the board intends to demonstrate to the citizens of Colorado and of other states considering such legislation that discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated. It is important to note that the CMA board is not encouraging musicians to boycott Colorado; there is a strong feeling that musicians performing in the state have an effective "stage" from which to help educate and change attitudes.

It is our hope that actions such as ours and educational efforts of our member musicians and presenters will help convince the political, business, and other communities in Colorado to move rapidly to reverse this policy.

Sincerely,

Dean K. Stein

Dean K. Stein
Executive Director

Thought you might like a copy of this for your records!

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